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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/819,701	03/29/2001	Naoya Fujisaki	826.1722	3142

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EXAMINER

LEROUX, ETIENNE PIERRE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2171

DATE MAILED: 06/10/2003

5

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/819,701

Applicant(s)

FUJISAKI, NAOYA



Examiner

Etienne P LeRoux

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 November 2000 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-9, 11 and 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Pat No 4,945,475 issued to Bruffey et al (hereafter Bruffey '475).

Regarding claims 1, 2, 15 and 16, Bruffey '475 discloses:

a setting unit setting policy attribute data [Fig 6, volume 2] in correspondence with path information [Fig 2] of a directory [Fig 2, 91]

a file managing unit managing a file [Fig 6, 95] based on policy data composed of the path information [Fig 2] of the directory [Fig 6, 91] and the policy attribute data [Fig 6, volume 2]

Regarding claims 2 and 17, Bruffey '475 discloses assigning attribute data to a subdirectory [Fig 2, 18, 19, 20]

Regarding claim 3, Bruffey '475 discloses whether or not to require a path search is registered with the policy attribute data [col 3, lines 15-25]

Regarding claim 4, Bruffey '475 discloses a control table [Figs 4 and 6 –8], pointer information [Fig 3]

Regarding claim 5, Bruffey '475 discloses checkpoint information indicating path information of a directory yet to be generated is registered to said control table for the directory [each directory is a branching node, col 3, lines 16-24]

Regarding claim 6, Bruffey '475 discloses checkpoint information registered to said control table is searched, and a directory for which the checkpoint information is set is searched [col 3, lines 30-48]

Regarding claim 7, Bruffey '475 discloses when a name of a directory is changed, policy attribute data of a parent directory is inherited to a subdirectory if policy attribute data is not specified for the subdirectory, and specified policy attribute data is assigned to a subdirectory if the policy attribute data is specified for the subdirectory [col 4, line 54 through col 5, line 38]

Regarding claim 8, Bruffey '475 discloses inherited data [col 4, line 54 through col 5, line 38] and assigned data [col 5, lines 60 through col 6, line 12]

Regarding claim 9, Bruffey '475 discloses a policy registering unit if a file operation violates the policy [Fig 8, 140 and col 9, lines 42 through col 10, line 5]

Regarding claim 11, Bruffey '475 discloses total size of files [col 8, lines 36-39]

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bruffey '475 as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of US Pat No 5,564,119 issued to Krawchuk et al (hereafter Krawchuk '119).

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Regarding claim 10, Bruffey '475 discloses the essential elements of the claimed invention per supra paragraph except for causing a file or directory which violated the policy to comply with the policy. Krawchuk '119 discloses causing a file or directory which violated the policy to comply with the policy [Fig 6]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Bruffey '475 to include causing a file or directory which violated the policy to comply with the policy as taught by Krawchuk '119 for the purpose of controlling cost, increased effort and complexity [col 10, line 19].

5. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bruffey '475 as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of US Pat No 5,764,972 issued to Crouse et al (hereafter Crouse '972)

Regarding claim 12, Bruffey '475 discloses the essential elements of the claimed invention per supra paragraph but does not disclose path information of an archived file. Crouse '972 discloses path information of an archived file [col 4, lines 42-67]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Bruffey '475 to include path information of an archived file as taught by Crouse '972 for the purpose of providing a logical means for storing and accessing data stored in remote files [col 4, lines 42-47].

6. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Bruffey '475 and Crouse '972 as applied to claim 12 above, and further in view of US Pat No 5,778,389 issued to Pruett et al (hereafter Pruett '389).

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Regarding claim 13, the combination of Bruffey '475 and Crouse '972 disclose the essential elements of the claimed invention per supra paragraph except for a hidden file. Pruett '389 discloses a hidden file [col 8, lines 29-40]. I would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Bruffey '475 and Crouse '972 to include a hidden file as taught by Pruett '389 for the purpose of preventing the synchronization of certain files [col 8, lines 29-32]

7. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Bruffey '475 and Crouse '972 and Pruett '389 as applied to claim 13 above, and further in view of US Pat No 6,018,744 issued to Mamiya et al (hereafter Mamiya '744)

Regarding claim 14, the combination of Bruffey '475 and Crouse '972 and Pruett '389 discloses the essential elements of the claimed invention per supra paragraph but does not disclose path information of an archived file matches the path information of the policy directory. Mamiya '744 discloses an archived file matches the path information of the policy directory [col 2, lines 46-52]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Bruffey '475 and Crouse '972 and Pruett '389 to include an archived file matches the path information of the policy directory as taught by Mamiya '744 for the purpose of managing the database and various files in a unified manner [col 2, lines 36-41].

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Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

1. US Pat No. 5,544,360 issued to Lewak et al disclose hybrid folders that can be implemented on top of the normal hierarchical structured directory.
2. US Pat No 6,389,427 issued to Faulkner discloses identifying directories or files to be monitored in order to intercept access requests for these files in order to provide enhanced performance.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Etienne LeRoux whose telephone number is (703) 305-0620.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic, can be reached on (703) 308-1436.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Etienne LeRoux

June 5, 2003


SAFET METJAHIC
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